

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO JEFFREY SHAW

• Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, I wish to congratulate Jeffrey Shaw on his retirement after serving Southwest Gas Corporation, Southwest Gas, for 27 years. It gives me great pleasure to recognize his years of hard work and dedication to a company that services thousands across Nevada.

Mr. Shaw stands as a shining example of someone who has devoted his life to serving his State and community. After earning his bachelor of science in accounting from the University of Utah, Mr. Shaw worked for Arthur Andersen & Co. in its Dallas and Las Vegas offices in the audit division. In 1988, he began his career at Southwest Gas as director of internal audit. From there, Mr. Shaw worked to move higher in the company, climbing from controller and chief accounting officer all the way to president and chief executive officer of Southwest Gas. Today, the company services over 1 million homes across the country.

Mr. Shaw is not only driven in his endeavors with Southwest Gas, but within the local Las Vegas community as well. He is a member of the Nevada Society of Certified Public Accountants and the Leadership Las Vegas Alumni Association. He also serves on the boards of the Council for a Better Nevada and the UNLV Foundation, and he is a past president and a current board member of both the Western Energy Institute and the Las Vegas Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America. His work throughout these many organizations demonstrates his dedication to honorably representing Nevada on multiple fronts. Although he is retiring, his legacy within these organizations will continue for years to come.

It is not only Mr. Shaw's commitment and drive to excel that places him among the most notable in his community, but also his genuine good nature in helping others. He has served Las Vegas by contributing to higher education and the local Boy Scout community, and by working to improve the quality of life across the State. His commitment to helping those around him is unwavering.

I am very grateful for his dedication to the people of Las Vegas and to the State of Nevada. He exemplifies the highest standards of leadership and community service and should be proud of his long and meaningful career. Today, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Shaw on his retirement, and I give my deepest appreciation for all that he has done to make Nevada a better place. I offer him my best wishes for many successful and fulfilling years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO DONALDO MCINTOSH

• Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, I wish to congratulate Donald McIntosh on his retirement after 58 years of service

to Nevada and to the country. His hard work and dedication throughout the years is honorable.

Mr. McIntosh started his career in 1957 as a military police officer in the U.S. Army. His service extended for 3 years, protecting those in his local community, as well as his country. After serving in the Army, Mr. McIntosh then spent the rest of his career working in the transportation industry for the city of Las Vegas. In 1970, he worked as safety director for the Las Vegas Transit System and Greyline Tours and then for Transportation Unlimited. His final years of service were spent as a transportation escort for the Pahrump Senior Center.

I extend my deepest gratitude to Mr. McIntosh for his courageous contributions to the United States of America. His service to his country and his bravery and dedication earn him a place among the outstanding men and women who have valiantly defended our Nation. As a member of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, I recognize that Congress has a responsibility not only to honor these brave individuals who serve our Nation, but also to ensure they are cared for after their service. I remain committed to upholding this promise for our veterans and servicemembers in Nevada and throughout the Nation.

The Las Vegas community has greatly benefitted from the hard work of Mr. McIntosh. Today, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. McIntosh on his retirement. I offer my deepest appreciation for all that he has done to make the Silver State a better place and for his service to this country, and I give my best wishes for many successful and fulfilling years to come.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations, and a withdrawal, which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

REPORT RELATIVE TO THE DESIGNATION OF FUNDING FOR OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS/GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM—PM 10

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on the Budget:

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with language under the heading "Coast Guard, Operating Expenses" of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2015 (the "Act"), I hereby designate for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism all funding so designated by the Congress in the Act pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended, as outlined in the enclosed list of accounts.

The details of this action are set forth in the enclosed memorandum from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

BARACK OBAMA.
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 4, 2015.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:55 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House recedes from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 240) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes, and that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the aforementioned bill.

The message also announced that pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 1024(a), and the order of the House of January 6, 2015, the Speaker appoints the following Members on the part of the House of Representatives to the Joint Economic Committee: Mr. DELANEY of Maryland, Ms. ADAMS of North Carolina, and Mr. BEYER of Virginia.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 12:14 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 240. An act making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes.

H.R. 431. An act to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the Foot Soldiers who participated in Bloody Sunday, Turnaround Tuesday, or the final Selma to Montgomery Voting Rights March in March of 1965, which served as a catalyst for the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 625. A bill to provide for congressional review and oversight of agreements relating to Iran's nuclear program, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with

accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-814. A communication from the Acting Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Cattle Fever Tick; Importation Requirements for Ruminants From Mexico” ((RIN0579-AD91) (Docket No. APHIS-2012-0073)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 2, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-815. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “9-Octadecenoic Acid (9Z)-, Sulfonated, Oxidized and its Potassium and Sodium Salts; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance” (FRL No. 9922-29) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-816. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Metaldehyde; Pesticide Tolerances” (FRL No. 9921-85) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-817. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “2015 Report to Congress from the Intelligent Transportation Systems Program Advisory Committee”; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-818. A communication from the Vice President of Government Affairs and Corporate Communications, National Railroad Passenger Corporation, Amtrak, transmitting, pursuant to law, Amtrak’s fiscal year 2016 General and Legislative Annual Report; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-819. A communication from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Establishing Transit Areas Through Walrus Protection Areas at Round Island and Cape Peirce, Northern Bristol Bay, Alaska; Amendment 107” (RIN0648-BE24) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 27, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-820. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Protection System Maintenance Reliability Standard” (RIN1902-AE88) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 27, 2015; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-821. A communication from the Administrator, U.S. Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “The Availability and Price of Petroleum and Petroleum Products Produced in Countries Other Than Iran”; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-822. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Significant New Use Rule for Pentane, 1,1,1,2,3,3,3-hexafluoro-4-(1,1,2,3,3,3-hexafluoropropoxy)-” ((RIN2070) (FRL No. 9922-30)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2015; to the

Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-823. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Tennessee; Emissions Statement Requirement for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone Standard” (FRL No. 9923-94-Region 6) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-824. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; North Carolina Infrastructure Requirements for the 2008 Lead National Ambient Air Quality Standards” (FRL No. 9924-16-Region 4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-825. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Mississippi: New Source Review - Prevention of Significant Deterioration” (FRL No. 9923-92-Region 4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-826. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Arkansas; Revisions for the Regulation and Permitting of Fine Particulate Matter” (FRL No. 9923-77-Region 6) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-827. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Texas; Approval of Substitution for Transportation Control Measures” (FRL No. 9923-80-Region 6) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-828. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans and Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes; Georgia; Redesignation of the Rome, Georgia, 1997 Annual Fine Particulate Matter Nonattainment Area to Attainment; Correction” (FRL No. 9923-89-Region 4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-829. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; West Virginia; State Boards Requirements; Infrastructure Requirements for the 2008 Ozone, 2010 Nitrogen Dioxide, and 2010 Sulfur Dioxide National Ambient Air Quality Standards” (FRL No. 9924-02-Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-830. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division,

Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Virginia; Infrastructure Requirements for the 2010 Sulfur Dioxide National Ambient Air Quality Standards” (FRL No. 9923-79-Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-831. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Pennsylvania; Redesignation Request and Associated Maintenance Plan for the Reading, Pennsylvania Nonattainment Area for the 1997 Annual Fine Particulate Matter Standard, and 2007 Base Year Inventory” (FRL No. 9923-11-Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-832. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; State Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants, and Operating Permits Program; State of Missouri” (FRL No. 9923-68-Region 7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-833. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Quality State Implementation Plans; Approval and Promulgation: Missouri; St. Louis Inspection and Maintenance Program” (FRL No. 9923-66-Region 7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2015; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-834. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Round 2 of Section 48A Phase III Program under the Qualifying Advanced Coal Project Program” (Notice 2015-14) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 4, 2015; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-835. A communication from the United States Trade Representative, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 2015 Trade Policy Agenda and 2014 Annual Report of the President of the United States on the Trade Agreements Program; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-836. A communication from the Comptroller General of the United States, Government Accountability Office, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Office’s audit of the United States government’s fiscal years 2014 and 2013 consolidated financial statements; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-837. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Financial Report of the United States Government for Fiscal Year 2014”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-838. A communication from the General Counsel of the National Credit Union Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Appraisals for Higher-Priced Mortgage Loans; Supplemental Final Rule” (RIN3133-AE21) received in the Office of the President of the Senate

on March 2, 2015; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-839. A communication from the General Counsel of the National Credit Union Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Appraisals for Higher-Priced Mortgage Loans" (RIN3133-AE04) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 2, 2015; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-840. A communication from the Director, Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementation of Executive Order 13672 Prohibiting Discrimination Based on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity by Contractors and Subcontractors" (RIN1250-AA07) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 2, 2015; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-841. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medical Device Reporting: Electronic Submission Requirements; Correcting Amendments" ((RIN0910-AF86) (Docket No. FDA-2008-N-0393)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 27, 2015; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-842. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC 14-068); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-843. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC 14-131); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-844. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC 14-150); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-845. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 2015-0018-2015-0025); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-846. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the interdiction of aircraft engaged in illicit drug trafficking (OSS-2015-0220); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-847. A communication from the Deputy Associate Director for Management and Administration and Designated Reporting Official, Office on National Drug Control Policy, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Director of National Drug Control Policy, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 27, 2015; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petition or memorial was laid before the Senate and was referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-7. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Michigan supporting scientific-

ally-based state management of gray wolves and calling for legislative action by the U.S. Congress in an effort to remove the Western Great Lakes gray wolf population from the endangered and threatened species list; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 7

Whereas, On December 19, 2014, the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia returned the Western Great Lakes population of gray wolves to the federal endangered and threatened species list. This is the third time in the last decade that federal courts have disregarded the judgment of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service scientists and overturned a delisting of the gray wolf in the Great Lakes regions; and

Whereas, Based on objective scientific criteria, gray wolves have made a remarkable recovery from near extinction and are no and longer endangered in Michigan. Michigan's gray wolf population exceeds by more than three times the number or wolves biologists consider necessary to maintain a healthy population and has grown steadily for more than a decade. Michigan's wolf population has met all federal recovery goals for delisting, both in terms of the number of wolves and the stability of those numbers; and

Whereas, The extreme protection afforded gray wolves under the federal Endangered Species Act prevents sound management of this species in Michigan. Gray wolves increasingly endanger people and domestic animals as they encroach more and more on developed areas, and they also impact other wildlife. In 2014, deadly wolf attacks on livestock and dogs increased 75 percent in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. As a result of the court's decision, Michigan's laws allowing citizens to protect their valuable livestock and dogs from wolves have been invalidated. The federal law was designed to bring back species from the brink of extinction, not manage the complicated interactions between people and an increasingly large and expanding predator population; and

Whereas, Michigan is well-prepared to manage gray wolves. The state of Michigan has developed a scientifically-based management plan that will continue to maintain a healthy gray wolf population while allowing for more flexibility when conflicts between people and wolves arise. This plan will allow the state to meet its obligations under sections 51 and 52 of the Constitution of the State of Michigan of 1963 to protect the public health and natural resources in the interest of the general welfare of the people; and

Whereas, Michigan cannot properly manage the gray wolf population until gray wolves are removed from the federal endangered and threatened species list in the Great Lakes region. The federal courts' continued interference infringes on this state's rights under the Tenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, and the U.S. District Court's ruling must be overturned or the fundamental flaws in the federal Endangered Species Act corrected so that science and reason can prevail; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we support scientifically-based state management of gray wolves by the Michigan Natural Resources Commission and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources; and be it further

Resolved, That to achieve that end, we support federal legislation to lift federal protections on the Western Great Lakes gray wolf population so they are no longer considered endangered, and we call on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to appeal the recent federal court ruling that returned gray wolves in the Great Lakes region to the fed-

eral endangered and threatened species list; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the members of the Michigan congressional delegation, the director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Michigan Natural Resources Commission, and the director of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. BROWN):

S. 648. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve formulary requirements for prescription drug plans and MA-PD plans with respect to certain categories or classes of drugs; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, and Mr. VITTER):

S. 649. A bill to amend the eligibility requirements for funding under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. THUNE, and Mr. NELSON):

S. 650. A bill to extend the positive train control system implementation deadline, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 651. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire certain land in Martinez, California, for inclusion in the John Muir National Historic Site, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. PAUL:

S. 652. A bill to amend title 13, United States Code, to provide for the more accurate and complete enumeration of members of the Armed Forces in any tabulation of total population by the Secretary of Commerce, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. 653. A bill to amend the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 to reauthorize grants for and require applied water supply research regarding the water resources research and technology institutes established under that Act; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. ROBERTS (for himself, Ms. HEITKAMP, and Mr. MORAN):

S. 654. A bill to exempt certain class A CDL drivers from the requirement to obtain a hazardous material endorsement while operating a service vehicle with a fuel tank containing 3,785 liters (1,000 gallons) or less of diesel fuel; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. THUNE:

S. 655. A bill to prohibit the use of funds by the Secretary of the Interior to make a final determination on the listing of the northern long-eared bat under the Endangered Species Act of 1973; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. PORTMAN:

S. 656. A bill to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to enable